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posed upon a double ogee extending from the middle line of the palate along the anterior inner edge of the orbit. Sphenoid teeth forming two elongated patches. Tongue large, elliptical, attached by an elongated central pedicel, and free upon its posterior third. Eyes large. Limbs slender, anterior ones longest; four fingers; five toes, all free and tapering. Tail subcylindrical, slightly compressed, tapering towards the tip. Skin exteriorly smooth and soft.

HEREDIA OREGONENSIS.—Tail longer than the body and head together. Fingers and toes slender and free, inner one very small. Skin smooth, uniform dark brown above, lighter beneath.

The Secretary read a note from Dr. Wm. S. Zantzinger, dated 29th July, 1856, stating that he was about to remove from the city, and consequently tendered his resignation as Librarian of the Academy. The resignation was accepted.

ELECTION.

Baron John William Von Müller, of Stuttgart, was elected a Correspondent, and Mr. Alfred Cope and Dr. Wm. H. Gobrecht, both of Philadelphia, were elected members of the Academy.

August 5th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Dr. Hallowell presented for publication in the Proceedings, a paper entitled "Notes on the Reptiles in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, by Edward Hallowell, M. D.;" also a paper entitled "On several new Reptiles in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, by Edward Hallowell, M. D." Both these papers were referred to a Committee consisting of Dr. Leidy, Mr. Cassin and Mr. Schafhirt.

Dr. Hallowell exhibited numerous specimens of the larvæ of Bufo Americanus. These were caught by Dr. Leidy on the 16th of June, along the banks of the Schuylkill, near Philadelphia. They are nine lines in length, including the tail, of a slate color above, with dark colored spots; the under parts are whitish mingled with gray. The reason why the tadpoles of the toad are not more often seen, is probably on account of their small size. Specimens of the perfect animal were also exhibited; these were six lines in length, of a grey color above, with numerous small dark colored spots, containing each one or more minute reddish colored ones; these smaller spots were also distributed over the body; under parts whitish; the perfect specimens were found July 7th, 1856, among stones quite close to the river.

Dr. Hallowell also exhibited a number of specimens of Rana halecina, Kalm, found in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, both male and female. The females appear to be of a somewhat lighter color than the males, and have fewer spots. The latter are all provided with a vocal sac, one on each side, communicating with a small circular opening, not quite a line in diameter, beneath the lower jaw near its angle, nearly opposite the eustachian foramina.

Duméril and Bibron, in their Erpetologie Generale, tom. viii., p. 353, remark, that in comparing the Rana esculenta of Europe, and the Rana halecina, the first thing to be observed is, that the Rana halecina is not provided at the angles of the mouth with those slits which permit the males to extend their vocal sacs, which is the case in the common frog of Europe. Dr. Holbrook also states, in presenting the distinctive characters between the two animals, that in Rana halecina " there are no *openings* on the sides of the jaws, at the angle of the mouth, out of which the vocal vesicles pass when distended with air, as in the Rana esculenta." So far from this being the case, it is the only frog in the United States which appears to possess the sexual characters above mentioned. Both authors quote among the synonyms of halecina, the Rana utricularia of Harlan, which is the male halecina with distended vocal vesicles. The error has arisen from the fact, as stated to me by Dr. Holbrook, that the males of a species found in the Southern States resembling the halecina, do not possess the vocal vesicles. We have lately received from Florida a male specimen, found by our fellow member, Mr. Ashmead, in a sulphur spring, near the St. John's River, about three hundred miles from Key West, which is totally destitute of these vesicles. It resembles very much the halecina, but differs from it, in having a more acute snout, with a much more slender body and extremities; the general color is darker, the black spots more numerous, and the markings upon the thighs are different; it should be remembered however, that this description is based upon a single specimen. A more important character exists in the presence of a broad and very distinct and well marked row of pores along the upper part of each flank, in the true halecina, and their presence also above the orbits, upon the back part of the head and neck, and various parts of the body; these all appear to be wanting in the Southern species. Duméril and Bibron very consistently place the animal they describe in the second division of the Ranidæ, including those " without pores about the neck, upon the belly, and none upon the flanks." We do not observe, however, in the specimen before us, that the thumbs are decidedly truncate.

We would propose the name of Rana oxyrhynchus for the Southern species.

RANA OXYRHYNCHUS, nob.

Char. Head narrow, acute, longer than broad; body and extremities slender, the posterior quite long; four or five palatine teeth on each side, very distinct, between the internal nares; the patches near to each other, but a considerable distance from the former; tympanum rather small; eustachian foramina of moderate size; tongue narrow; scarcely a trace of webs to the anterior toes; posterior reaching just beyond the proximal extremity of the third phalanx of fourth toe; third finger the longest; fourth toe much longer than either of the others; thumbs not remarkably swollen at their base; subarticular tubercles not very distinct; no rows of pores upon the sides, and none visible upon the head or other parts of the body.

Color. Dark olive, inclining to black above; two black bands on each side reaching from the eye to the extremity of the snout; a narrow white band extending from the latter on each side beneath the tympanum, in contact with it, and terminating just above the shoulder; another narrow white line, the cuticle here being slightly elevated, passing from the posterior margin of the eye to the upper part of the thigh, near the middle; two dark oval spots upon the head between the eyes, and upon the back; fifteen or sixteen black oval spots, each surrounded by a narrow white margin, between the lateral dorsal vittæ; anterior extremities black spotted above; posterior presenting upon their upper surface several transverse bars of black margined with white, the posterior surface mottled with the same colors; legs and tarsi spotted with black; ground color greyish above; sides of body greyish, marbled and spotted with black and white spots and markings; under surface of animal white throughout; (from a specimen in spirits.)

Dimensions. Length of head 11 lines; greatest breadth 7; length of head, neck and body 1 inch 10 lines; length of thigh 1 inch; of leg 1 inch 1 line; of tarsus and foot to extremity of largest toe 1 inch 7 lines; total length 5 inches.

Habitat. Florida.

It is a subject of doubt, whether the animal figured in Prof. Holbrook's work be the true halecina or not; for in his description he says " a second line of yellowish white extends from the nose to the shoulder; the latter is less extensive in the male animal, ending at the vocal sac"—Vol. iv. p. 91. And yet, at the end of the chapter on Rana halecina, it is stated as above mentioned, that "there are no *openings* at the sides of the jaws, at the angle of the mouth, out of which the vocal vesicles pass when distended with air." Except that the sacs are not represented, the figure would correspond sufficiently well with the R. halecina of Kalm. There can be no doubt that the R. esculenta (R. viridis, Roesel, fluviatilis, Rondeletius) is different from halecina, although resembling it very much.

One of the most important differences consists in the presence in the former, upon the back, of numerous tubercles, each penetrated by one or more pores, giving it a somewhat toad-like appearance; another is the absence in the esculenta of the conglomerated pores upon the neck and other parts of the upper surface of the animal. Of the latter we have at least fifty specimens in the collection of the Academy.

On leave granted, Mr. Cassin offered the following Preamble and Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The resignation of William S. Zantzinger, M. D., as Librarian of this Academy, has been presented on account of his removal from this city:

Resolved, That in accepting the resignation of Dr. Zantzinger as Librarian, the members of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia are deeply sensible of the loss the Society has sustained in thus parting with an esteemed associate, and an efficient and faithful officer and member.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Academy be presented to Dr. Zantzinger, as a testimony of his valuable services as Recording Secretary, Librarian and Member of the Committee on Proceedings.

Resolved, That the Committee on Proceedings and the Publication Committee of this Academy, be directed to present in the name of the Academy complete setts of all its publications, or so much thereof as he may require to complete copies that he may have, and to continue to send the same to him as published, gratuitously.

August 12*th.*

Vice President Bridges in the Chair.

Mr. A. H. Smith exhibited a specimen of amygdaloidal trap from Lake Superior, in which the zeolitic matter filling the cavities is encrusted and partially replaced by green carbonate of copper.

Dr. Bridges suggested that the zeolitic matter might have been dissolved by a solution of carbonic acid; and the oxide of copper dissolved by the same agent, and, impregnating the soil, would more or less replace the mineral.

Dr. Rand announced the death of J. Madison Rush, late Lieutenant U. S. N., and member of this Academy, in the 35th year of his age. Lieut. Rush was drowned in the Red Lake River, Minnesota Territory, on the 20th of July.